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Lincoln students receive top honors in Citywide High School Student Art Show and Nebraskans for the Arts recognition

Omaha, NE – Nebraskans for the Arts proudly includes two students in its “Spotlight on Student Achievement in the Arts” program from Lincoln who captured top honors at the Citywide High School Student Art Show this past month: Savanna Falter and Kate Batterman.

Falter received her recognition of Best of Show for her painting “Russian Girl” at an April 14 reception. She is a sophomore at Lincoln East High School and is now largely self-taught. Her mother, Nancy Falter, notes she participated in a formative experience in a before-school art club led by Dawn Connelly at Maxey Elementary School in Lincoln.

“Savanna would bring this sense of wonder and delight home where she would create and create,” recalls Nancy. It was because of her daughter’s need to have more art in her life that they pursued having an art mentor, Max Reis, for two years at Maxey Elementary.

Batterman, a senior at Lincoln Christian School, received the top People’s Choice award on May 2 after a period of public voting for her mixed media piece titled “Steve Jobs.” She’s taken two years of high school art class with Lynn Wilson, who has taught at Lincoln Christian for seven years after 20 years teaching art in Wahoo.

Of Batterman, Wilson enthusiastically wrote, “Kate has a God-given gift for making art which gives her work maturity!” Regarding the art show, she says, “I’ve been blessed with wonderful, creative students. 12 of them submitted work for the Citywide Art Show. We enjoyed the process and appreciated the hard work that went in to hosting it.”

The Citywide High School Student Art Show, up through May 25, is shown at White or Wheat Sandwich Shoppe on 70th and Van Dorn. Julie Lemons, president of the Association of Nebraska Art Clubs and a graphic designer for Lincoln Public Schools, organized the show.

Lemons sees this show as an opportunity for high school artists: “I think only good can come from students seeing the work of their peers; it provides a forum for kids to improve their work in a friendly environment. Young artists need a channel for their creativity and hard work – the owner of White or Wheat gladly provided one for them.” A full list of winners can be found in this [Lincoln Journal-Star Neighborhood Extra story](#).

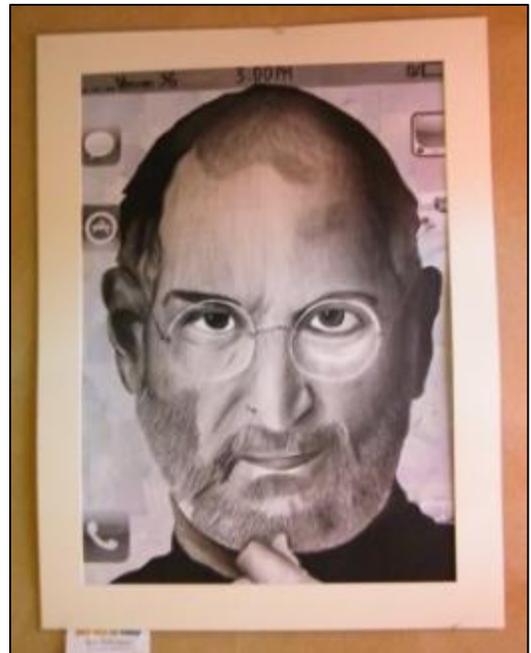
Nebraskans for the Arts regularly recognizes “Student Spotlight” recipients in their communities as well as with their state legislators, principals and school boards. The statewide organization, in its desire to underscore the importance of arts education, sincerely thanks each of these students’ arts educators for the crucial role they have played in helping young adults build upon their talents through careful training. Nominations for “Spotlight on Student Achievement in the Arts” are received through a survey found on the Nebraskans for the Arts website, www.nebraskansforthearts.org.

About Nebraskans for the Arts:

Nebraskans for the Arts is a non-profit membership organization. NFTA promotes the advancement of learning in and through the arts for all Nebraska residents and is committed to promoting the arts to federal, state and local policymakers. NFTA is a member of the Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network and an Americans for the Arts state affiliate.



“Russian Girl” by Savanna Falter, Best of Show



“Steve Jobs” by Kate Batterman, People’s Choice